

Lastly, I will note that under the rules of interpretation in H.R. 8, it says: "Rules of interpretation. Nothing in this act, or any amendment made by this act, shall be construed to: authorize the establishment, directly or indirectly, of a national firearms registry."

That is false. This bill will create a national registry. That is because every firearms transfer has to go through a Federal firearms licensee's acquisition and disposition logbook. And every time a Federal firearms license is not renewed, those records must be sent to the ATF for storage, which, in turn, scans those records into a database for a future use. That is, in effect, a national firearms registry in the making.

If the rules of interpretation of H.R. 8 are correctly followed, then one could logically argue that this bill actually prohibits itself by, in its own words, prohibiting, directly or indirectly, a national firearms registry.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank the gentleman from Georgia. I thank all of my colleagues. I appreciate the opportunity to be with so many of my friends who support the Second Amendment and oppose H.R. 8.

I was talking earlier tonight about the Heller decision, where Justice Scalia said the Second Amendment is a preexisting right. Justice Scalia wrote: "There seems to us no doubt, on the basis of both text and history, that the Second Amendment conferred an individual right to keep and bear arms." He did state "the right was not unlimited," but the bill being considered goes well beyond acceptable limitations.

H.R. 8 is another bill that the majority is bringing to the floor this session without a hearing or markup in the Judiciary Committee.

Last Congress, the markup of H.R. 8 was cut short when the chairman of the committee introduced an amendment in the nature of a substitute right in the middle of the markup after Republicans repeatedly offered amendments highlighting flaws in the bill. He didn't allow Members opposed to the amendment to speak or offer amendments. He then called for the vote on the substitute amendment. This hurried process demonstrated that Democrats cared more about simply passing a bill than passing a good bill.

H.R. 8 would not have prevented recent shootings. In Parkland, the shooter acquired the firearm legally from an FFL after undergoing a NICS check.

In Sutherland Springs, Texas, the shooter made purchases from an FFL following a NICS check.

In Las Vegas, the shooter purchased his firearms from an FFL after a background check.

In Orlando, the shooter purchased his firearms legally from an FFL following a NICS check.

I can go on, but there are so many more examples that are just the same because criminals who seek to do harm

will get guns, regardless of the new restrictions imposed by H.R. 8. That is just the nature of criminals.

I was a prosecutor and a criminal defense attorney. I can tell you, that is the way criminals are. They violate the law.

With very limited exceptions, H.R. 8 makes it illegal for Americans to get a gun if a nonlicensed importer, manufacturer, or dealer is involved. And how will the government know if an illegal transfer occurs?

Eventually, the government will have to create a registry of all firearms and firearm owners so that they can track all transfers. That is what they want to do here. Without a registry, this bill is utterly unenforceable.

I have heard supporters of this bill say that other countries have similar restrictions, so we need to do the same as well. But the reality is, there is no other country on the face of this planet that has a Second Amendment, where the Founders of that country said the right to bear arms and protect yourself against government and individuals is a God-given right and deserves to be protected. It is, as Justice Scalia said, a preexisting right.

Supporters say that this bill is about saving lives. If that is what is important, then I would encourage every supporter of this bill to join me in co-sponsoring the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which actually will save lives. I urge Speaker PELOSI to bring that bill to the floor today.

I oppose this bill. I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for being here tonight, and I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 10, 2021, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-544. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting Major rule — Net Stable Funding Ratio: Liquidity Risk Measurement Standards and Disclosure Requirements [Docket ID OCC-2014-0029] (RIN: 1557-AD97) received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-545. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Pentachlorothiophenol (PCTP); Regulation of Persistent, Bio-

accumulative, and Toxic Chemicals Under TSCA Section 6(h) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2019-0080; FRL-10018-89] (RIN: 2070-AK60) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-546. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Phenol, Isopropylated Phosphate (3:1) (PIP 3:1); Regulation of Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Chemicals Under TSCA Section 6(h) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2019-0080; FRL-10018-88] (RIN: 2070-AK58) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-547. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Hexachlorobutadiene (HCBD); Regulation of Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Chemicals Under TSCA Section 6(h) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2019-0080; FRL-10018-91] (RIN: 2070-AK61) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-548. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Lead and Copper Rule Revisions [EPA-HQ-OW-2017-0300; FRL-10019-23-OW] (RIN: 2040-AF15) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-549. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 24-27, "Non-Public Student Educational Continuity Temporary Amendment Act of 2021", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-550. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives: Airbus Helicopters (Type Certificate Previously Held by Eurocopter France) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2019-1056; Product Identifier 2018-SW-047-AD; Amendment 39-21193; AD 2020-16-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-551. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revenue Procedure 2021-5 received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-552. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting interim final rule — Mandatory Advance Electronic Information for International Mail Shipments [Docket No. USCBP-2021-0009; CBP Dec. 21-04] (RIN: 1651-AB33) received March 8, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows: